

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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R 121335Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6259
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 2261

USEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJ: VISIT OF GREEK PM CARAMANLIS TO BERN, MAY 5-8

1. SUMMARY: THE TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH SWISS OFFICIALS
CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF A BRIEFING FOR THE SWISS ON WELL-KNOWN
GREEK VIEWS ON CYPRUS, THE AEGEAN AND ASSOCIATION WITH THE EC.
END SUMMARY.

2. WE DISCUSSED THIS VISIT WITH FRANCOIS NORDMANN, SPEC ASST
TO SWISS FONMIN, FED COUNCILOR PIERRE AUBERT, WHO PARTICIPATED
IN THE MEETINGS WITH GREEK OFFICIALS. ACCORDING TO
NORDMANN, DISCUSSIONS DID NOT GET BEYOND AEGEAN - CYPRUS AND
GREEK RELATIONS WITH EC AND EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON
MEMBERSHIP.

3. ON CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN, GREEK DELEGATION
BRIEFED SWISS ON THEIR VIEWS AND LEFT IMPRESSION THAT
THEY WERE QUITE CONTENT WITH MATTERS AS THEY STAND,
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I.E., ON CYPRUS WITH THE PROGRESS, HOWEVER, SLOW, OF
THE WALDHEIM COMMITTEE, AND ON THE AEGEAN, TO TRY
TO KEEP THE MATTER BEFORE ICJ EVEN THOUGH IT IS
THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT TURKEY HAS REJECTED
JURISDICTION OF COURT ONCE AGAIN. GREEKS SAID THAT
THEY BELIEVE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN TWO COMMUNITIES
ON CYPRUS ARE PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY. THEY

INDICATED NO DESIRE FOR FURTHER HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSIONS
WITH THEIR TURKISH COUNTERPARTS ON EITHER ISSUE.
SWISS ASKED IF, FROM GREEK POINT OF VIEW, THERE WAS
ANY ROLE SWISS COULD USEFULLY PLAY IN THESE DISPUTES
AND WERE TOLD THAT THERE WAS NONE.

4. ON RELATIONS WITH EC, GREEKS SEEMED QUITE OPTIMISTIC
THAT THEIR REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE ACTED ON
SOON, MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN SWISS BELIEVE IS JUSTIFIED
BASED ON THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH CERTAIN EC MEMBER
STATES. SWISS ONCE AGAIN RAISED POSSIBILITY OF
NEGOTIATING AN INTERIM AGREEMENT TO COVER PERIOD
UNTIL GREECE DOES BECOME FULL MEMBER, ARGUING THAT
PREFERENCES GRANTED TO EC BY GREECE ARE DAMAGING
SWISS EXPORTS. GREEKS SAID THAT THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED
IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL QUESTION OF MEMBERSHIP
WAS SETTLED.
CROWLEY

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